

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.	: 10/821,176	Confirmation No.	: 8409
Applicant	: Hidehisa KONISHI		
Filed	: April 9, 2004		
TC/A.U.	: 2852		
Examiner	: To Be Assigned		
Docket No.	: 100689.53976US		
Customer No.	: 23911		
Title	: Image Forming Apparatus		

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT  
UNDER 37 C.F.R § § 1.97 AND 1.98**

**Mail Stop Missing Parts**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document listed on the attached Form PTO-1449 which the Examiner may deem relevant to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

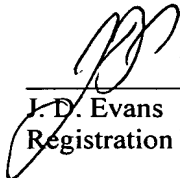
An English abstract summarizing the disclosure of the publication is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

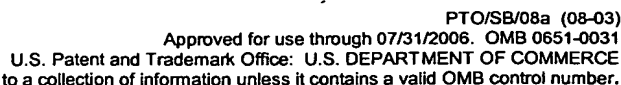
The submission of the listed document is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

August 23, 2004

  
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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

*(use as many sheets as necessary)*

Sheet	1	of	1
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**Complete if Known**

Application Number	10/821,176
Filing Date	April 9, 2004
First Named Inventor	Hidehisa KONISHI
Art Unit	2852
Examiner Name	To Be Assigned
Attorney Docket Number	100689.53976US

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials <sup>1</sup>	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup> —Number <sup>4</sup> —Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)				
	AA	JP-2000321838-A	11-24-2000	CANON INC.		AB

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. 1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 901.04. 3 Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4 For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5 Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. **SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.**